

The Press and Banner.

BY HUGH WILSON.

ABBEVILLE, S. C.

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Wednesday, Oct. 28, 1903.

The War is Over.

In the death of William Spruell, the war with Mexico is over. For many years William Spruell has been the lonely sentinel on the outskirts of Abbeville. In his death leaves in this County no more of the struggle between the United States and Mexico. With more than a hundred others he marched from Abbeville in 1847 to enter upon the campaign against Mexico. More than two-thirds of that number succumbed to disease in camp or fell in battle, so that fewer than one-third of the noble band of patriots who marched to battle in 1847, never saw their homes again.

Abbeville's soldiers acted an important part in that conflict and carried off great honors in the victory which crowned American arms. It was F. W. Sellick of this city, who raised the American flag over the forts in the foreign city, and it was William Spruell who stood among those intrepid soldiers who supported the gallant Sellick while holding the American flag over the foreign foe. In war these old soldiers fought as one. In peace they lived as neighbors. In death they sleep together, "with all their country's wishes blest."

Samuel McGowan and J. Foster Marshall of this city were among the survivors of the Mexican war, and they afterward did noble service in the Confederate war. But they now sleep with Sellick and Spruell. Their warfare, like Spruell's and Sellick's is over. Among the survivors of the Mexican war who returned to their homes and still live, are John Wilkinson of White Hall, in Greenwood County, and J. J. Martin of Atlanta. The Mexican soldiers came home in 1849, and were received by the people with the greatest honor which a grateful country could confer. On the succeeding Fourth of July, a great barbecue dinner was given at Calhoun's Mills, and the most distinguished officers of that time were called upon to address the assembled multitude. The volunteer artillery company appeared in uniform, and the booming cannon, and the music of the band gave emphasis to the speeches and lent enthusiasm to a people who had come to do honor to the occasion.

All One Way, Except—

It is useless to publish the press comment on the Tillman verdict. They are all one way except that the result of the trial is up held by the Atlanta News, and the Augusta Chronicle. These papers are welcome to the distinction. They will probably be wrong, but Abbeville Press and Banner, which can always be relied on to get on the wrong side of anything that may come up—Spartanburg Free Lance, and the other papers.

The unanimity with which the press of this State has followed the line of thought as laid out by the daily press of the greater cities, we think would indicate that there is a lack of individuality in speech or a want of independence of thought among the editors of the State.

Of course it requires courage of any newspaper to speak its true opinions when all the rest of the press seem to utter only the ready-made sentiments as presented by their file-clerks. When such followers of others are ready to jump on any editor who may have the indecency, or the courage, to speak truthfully his own opinion, sensitive men may be deterred from giving an unbiased judgment.

It is remarkable that all the newspapers of the State should condemn Tillman for resenting attacks upon his good name. Are we to believe that every editor in the State wishes to abuse the liberty of the press, or are we led to believe that they would, as individuals, set an example of tamely submitting to the vilest epithets?

Would each and every one of the editors who have condemned Tillman allow any man to publish them as liars, cowards, thieves, etc.?

Those editors who think that men should be required to take all the insults that may be offered in print as having things all their own way, as far as public expression is concerned.

Those citizens who would resent the greatest offense are saying nothing.

Twist and turn it as you may, the verdict of the Lexington jury is the verdict of the people of the State.

As to whether the Abbeville Press and Banner is always on the wrong side. If that expression means that we are always wrong when not following the opinions of others, we accept it as the highest compliment which the Free Lance could pay. The opinions which this newspaper utters are our own, and are not the rebash of the errors which may be promulgated by any daily newspaper.

Religious Wind Machine.

A number of Associate Reformed Presbyterians of the Abbeville congregation met on Sunday at the furniture store of Mr. J. Hayne McDill, where the virtues of his wind machine, weighing from 250 to 1,100 pounds are fully displayed, without naming the price per pound.

The impious wretch who while ago said something about a piano had already been misrepresented, placed in a false light and hit on the head. He was completely trampled under foot in the most gentlemanly and in the most Christian style.

Under the circumstances it was not necessary to take further steps in reference to the brother who had been so unrespectably crushed and so inexpressibly humiliated. Everything is lovely and harmonious now. The preliminary wind in buying a machine is well under way. There remains nothing to be done now, except the little effort which is necessary to raise the wench with which to buy the approved wind machine.

Immigration Bureau.

The News and Courier is timely in its suggestion about the need for more people in South Carolina. That paper well says: "There ought to be a well organized immigration bureau at the State Capital, a five wide-awake, experienced man should be placed in charge of it, so that the best results might be obtained for the State. It would suggest that Gov. Heyward send a special commissioner to the conference to be held in New Orleans next month, to obtain such practical information upon the subject of immigration as will enable him to recommend to the General Assembly at its next session a plan for the establishment of an immigration agency in South Carolina."

If the South Carolina Agricultural and Mechanical Society were turned into an immigration Society real good would follow. We need more people. Our waste places should be filled.

Cotton is the cleanest, the most certain and the best money crop in the world. There is not a day in the year that a one-horse wagon load of it will not bring a hundred dollars. [Lands in the healthiest and best country in the world can be had for \$6 to \$10 an acre, which will produce cotton to the acre worth anywhere from \$20 to \$30.

Before buying your floor covering be sure and examine our carpet remnants and rugs. They are great bargains. A. M. Smith & Co. School books of all kinds at Milford's Drug Store, Phone 107.

Commercial Fruit.

Mr. M. V. Richards, Land and Industrial agent of the Southern Railway writes:

"Please note and return the attached clipping in regard to orchard proposed by P. Rosenburg & Co."

"Can you give me a little more information in regard to this—such information as we could use in the Southern Field. I would like to know the number of trees they will put out this year, the character of the trees, and the distance from Abbeville. This mention will help your town."

"Can you give me any information in regard to commercial orchards tributary to Abbeville?"

In reply: There are no commercial orchards tributary to Abbeville worthy of the name.

Mr. J. D. Winn, who lives five miles North of Abbeville has a small orchard of Elberta peach trees, the fruit from which he sold in Abbeville last Summer with such satisfactory results, that, it is said, he will add to his orchard this winter next spring.

Whether the sample of his fine fruit has inspired our people with the belief of their commercial value we do not know, but we are informed that from 12,000 to 20,000 trees of the same kind will be set out in this county this winter and next spring.

As we understand, the following named persons, among others, contemplate planting orchards this winter or spring.

Congressman William Allen and Postmaster R. S. Link, have recently bought 100 acres five miles north of Abbeville. On this tract they propose to appropriate twenty acres to Elberta peaches, planting 2,500 trees.

P. Rosenberg & Co., on their 2,000 acre tract on Savannah river will set out 3,000 Elbertas, 2 miles from Willington on S. V. R. R.—20 miles from Abbeville.

P. Rosenberg & Co., will set out 2,000 Elbertas on their farm east of the Court House, and lying partly in the corporate limits of the town of Abbeville.

A. A. Jackson, living on his farm, three miles south of Abbeville, will set 1,000 Elbertas.

Sheriff C. J. Lyon will set 2,000 Elbertas on his land north-west adjacent to the corporate limits of Abbeville.

Dr. S. G. Thomson contemplates setting 500 Elbertas near Abbeville.

J. E. McDavid, two miles north of Abbeville, will set 1,000 Elbertas.

William Bros., five miles southwest, will plant an orchard of Elbertas.

J. D. Winn, will add to his already bearing orchard, five miles north of Abbeville.

W. G. Chapman expects to set 2,000 Elbertas on his own property.

As far as we have been able to learn the above named persons are all that expect to go into the fruit business to any extent. It is true, however, that many small orchards are being planted for home use. The commercial investors, are as above named.

Some of these lands are especially adapted for fruit growing.

This is our answer to Mr. Richards. If we have erred, or if we have omitted any names, we are open to correction.

Neglect of Duty.

If anything was needed to prove that there has been neglect of duty in the office of the Comptroller-General it is not here furnished?

The grand jury of this county, among other things certified to the neglect of duty of a State officer and the inefficiency of the previous jurors. The grand jury says:

"At our Spring term of Court we appointed a committee to investigate the books and accounts of the county officers and as a result of their investigation we beg to submit our report, as follows:

"Commencing with the taxes of 1897, 1898, 1899 and a part of 1901, covering a term of the late treasurer, James M. Campbell, we find that his office is short \$20,236.70, with a credit of \$25, which would leave a balance of \$20,211.70."

"We find that during Mr. E. J. Brown's term of office as county treasurer he collected, under a misapprehension, commissions on disbursement amounting to \$785.43, that he had no warrant of law for the office being a salaried one. Aside from this and a few unimportant errors we find the books during his term in good shape."

"Your committee, after considering the matter carefully, thought best, and did so, to advise the collector on August 26, 1903, furnishing him with two copies of our report, in order that he might immediately take the necessary steps to correct the same."

"We would call your attention to the fact that there are no cash books kept in the treasurer's office, and we suggest that you recommend that a daily cash book be kept in the future. We so recommend."

The duty of the Comptroller-General is made clear in the Constitution of the State: Sec. 44. It shall be the duty of the Auditor of each county to notify the foreman of the Grand Jury thereof and the Comptroller General of the day upon which said settlement is to be made, and the Comptroller General, or some one duly authorized by him, and the foreman of the Grand Jury of each county to be present at the settlement."

Sec. 45. When said settlement shall have been completed, the settlement shall be signed by the County Commissioners and County Treasurers, the County Superintendent of Education and County Treasurer, in duplicate and certified by the County Auditor; one copy of which shall be filed in the Auditor's office and the other mailed to the Comptroller-General, to be by him reported to the General Assembly.

Sec. 46. It shall be the duty of the Comptroller General to mail each year a copy of his report containing such settlements to the Clerk of the Court, County Commissioners, School Commissioners and County Auditors of each county of the State, to be filed and kept said officers in their several offices."

As we understand it, the Comptroller-General has been making annual reports to the General Assembly. How did the Comptroller-General make his report if he had not settled with the treasurer of Richland? If the Comptroller had settled with the treasurer, how is it that in all these years there were great errors against the State and the County?

How was it possible for the County treasurer to hold the large sums which are now reported short? Does it prove that the Comptroller was inefficient? Or does it prove that the Comptroller's office has been careless in the most important duties devolving upon any officer?

As a further evidence of the incompetency in former years in the discharge of the duties of that office, other County treasurers have been reported delinquent. Are such delinquencies to be charged to the Comptroller?

If the incumbent of that office shall inaugurate a system of annual settlements as required by law, and will tell the public how former Comptrollers made up their reports to the Legislature, when they had not made a settlement with some of the treasurers, he will do a public service.

All Honor and all Happiness to the Bamberg Herald.

In reply to what we recently said about editorial in the Bamberg Herald that paper replies:

"So far as the Bamberg Herald is concerned, we will admit that during the past few weeks the amount of editorial matter in this paper has been very little and the quality rather poor. But, Bro. Wilson, our excuse is simple. Fact is, we have two good reasons for this. In the first place, our job printing department has kept everybody in the office from the proprietor to 'devil,' on the run for the past month or more."

"In the second place, we have had a very extra help we could not begin to cope with the rush of business, although we all worked day and night. Then the presence of a baby at our home, who is nearly three weeks old at this writing, is, to say the least, somewhat diverting, especially when it is the first son. We feel sure that Bro. Wilson will agree that the above facts fully excuse the absence of editorials in The Herald for the past few weeks."

The absence of editorials is satisfactorily explained. All right, brother. We hope that three weeks old boy may grow to be as good a man as his father and as great a man as his mother may wish. May be a joy and a comfort to the household where he is now so welcome.

Warned Not to Tell It.

Messrs. W. G. Milford and W. R. Smith were in town a few days ago. They informed us of the destruction of Dawson & Uldrich's gin by fire one day last week, but said that the machinery was ready to start again.

When asked about the cotton crop, each said it was much better than it was generally believed to be. They thought the crop was good, but they warned us not to publish it. They didn't want the cotton buyers to know the good condition of the crop.

Editors in Town.

Editor W. T. Crews of the Laurensville Herald came to town on Saturday, and Editor E. H. Auld dropped in on his way to town. Editor T. S. Crews of the Laurensville Herald passed through Abbeville on Monday. He would not stop.

These gentlemen are connected with newspapers that stand high with the brethren. Mr. Auld has been the popular and efficient President of the State Press Association for some ten years, and his excellent official career would indicate that he will be president for about ninety or a hundred years longer.

The good old Laurensville Herald stands for principle in peace; even as its editor fought for principle in war.

Ineffable Asses.

In writing for the newspapers about the Lexington verdict are not some men, who have been hitherto regarded as sensible, writing themselves down as ineffable asses?

ABBEVILLE TO THE FRONT.

A New Dry Goods and Millinery Firm With Staunch Business Men Behind the Enterprise.

Abbeville is to have a new dry goods and millinery firm in the near future. The gentlemen interested in this enterprise are Messrs. H. G. Anderson, W. D. Wilson and Albert Henry. They will carry a full and complete line of the swiftest dry goods and millinery.

Mr. H. G. Anderson is a member of the firm of Hall & Anderson and is a man noted for his business judgment and enterprising business methods.

Mr. W. D. Wilson, who has been head clerk for Mr. White for a number of years, has business qualifications that peculiarly fit him for this line of business.

Mr. Albert Henry is a young man who has been very successful in all business enterprises and has had a broad experience for such a young man.

With such men as these the success of the enterprise is assured.

They have secured the store which formerly belonged to Capt. John G. Edwards, but recently purchased by Mr. John Harris, and will occupy it to the very best advantage which they expect to carry. A handsome plate glass front will be put in and all the latest and up-to-date fixtures.

DUE WEST.

Interesting Paragraphs by a Wide-Awake Correspondent.

Due West, S. C., Oct. 27, 1903.

Pres. James Boyce leaves this week in company with Capt. Dilling, of Kings Mt., and Mr. S. B. White, of Abbeville, to visit the part of the State to enjoy the exciting pleasure of a deer hunt.

We regret to hear of the painful accident of Mr. W. W. Bradley, of Abbeville, in having his arm broken.

Mrs. Stannell and son and daughter are visiting the family of Dr. J. A. Brown.

Miss Rebecca Addison and Julia Kennedy and Messrs. L. S. Walker and Henry Bonner attended the Fair at Donalds Saturday. They are enthusiastic over the games of the dog and poultry races.

Miss Eva Clinkscales came over from Limestone College to attend the wedding of her sister Miss Ellen.

Miss Sue Norton will move this week into her residence on Bonner Street, just recently purchased from Dr. J. J. Lindsay.

The groom was accompanied by his critically ill. Much sympathy is expressed for the family in their anxiety over her condition. Her sister, Miss Blackwell, of this place, has been at her bedside for several weeks.

Miss Sue Blackwell left Monday to teach in Oconee Co.

Miss Sallie Stilton has returned from a pleasant visit of several weeks in Abbeville. She attended the wedding of Mr. S. B. White and Mrs. Watkins, of Anderson, and Mr. and Mrs. Ernest Clinkscales, of Honea Path, attended the Clinkscales' wedding.

Dr. J. W. Wideman spent last Wednesday in Abbeville.

Mr. A. J. Kirkpatrick has returned from Columbia where he has been looking after the interest of his farm.

The manager of Miss Elmer Clinkscales and Rev. J. A. Copeland of Waynesboro, Ga., was telephoned on last Wednesday evening at 8:30 p. m. in an urgent manner. The pastor Rev. J. A. Brown officiating.

The wedding was one of the most beautiful and elaborate functions ever witnessed in this place.

The bride was attended by also lovely bridesmaids, Miss Eva Clinkscales sister of the bride, Miss Louise Browne and Addie Ellis of this place, Miss Helen Haddon and Lucile McGee of Greenville, S. C., Miss Eselle Hollis of Blackwell, Miss Rose of Florio, and Miss Bristow.

They were charming costumes of white organdie and picturesque hats of black chiffon, carrying bouquets of white carnations. The maid of honor Miss Mabel Clinkscales was becomingly dressed in pink organdie and white chiffon hat. She carried a bouquet of pink carnations.

The bride wore a lovely picture in white silk and wore a tulle veil. She carried a magnificent bouquet of lilies of the valley.

The groom was accompanied by Mr. V. Anderson of Anderson as best man.

The ushers were Messrs. Jim Wideman, Earl Clinkscales, Mark Ellis and Furman McGee.

Little Addie and Josie Brown were the flower girls and marched in ahead of the bride.

Little Georgia Wardlaw brought the ring in.

The wedding march was skillfully played by Miss Erle Ellis, assisted by Messrs. D. S. Edwards and McGill.

The decorations were beautifully arranged by the skillful hand of Miss Sallie Stilton. They consisted of autumn leaves with a background of ferns and palms.

After the ceremony a reception was held at the residence of Mr. M. B. Clinkscales, father of the bride, for the bridal party and a few invited guests.

The bride and groom left at 8:30 for a trip to the North Carolina.

LOWNDSEVILLE.

What the People of the Seven Hilled City are Doing.

Lowndesville, Oct. 27, 1903.

Mr. T. D. Cooley spent several days in Elberton last week. They left this place Monday.

Mr. A. J. Speer and his little babe went to Anderson Wednesday, where they remained for two or three days.

Miss Rosa McGee of Midway, was the guest of Rev. H. C. Fennel Tuesday night, on her return from a visit to Atlanta, Ga.

Mr. Jas. Hill, while riding in repairing the bridge over the railroad, was struck by a train and killed.

The first "Mountain Schooner" of the season to make appearance at our docks, came in Friday. It is loaded consisted of a few small, hard apples, and a few cabbages.

A negro living on one of Hon. F. H. McGee's places in the Fork, without being killed, came across a deer, which he shot and killed. Where it came from and how it came to be there, is not as yet known.

Mr. T. C. Liddell received his commission several days ago and was at once qualified as a carrier of the mail on S. F. R. Route No. 1, and has since been in charge of the work ever since.

Miss Alice Fay Fennel accompanied by her father, Rev. H. C. Fennel, went to Mt. Carmel Saturday.

The killing front of the season came yesterday morning. While it was not heavy enough to kill all vegetation, yet it did kill much of the vegetation. Straw hats and other summer wear are still in evidence.

Dr. John O. Wilson came in Saturday evening and preached a good sermon in Smyrna church yesterday at 11:30 a. m.

Last night at 7:30, quite a crowd had collected in the town to take part, by their presence at least, in the celebration of the Silver Jubilee of the Southern Woman's Missionary Society of the Methodist Church.

The order of exercises in condensed form was as follows:

Voluntary Scripture Lesson—by Rev. R. W. Barber, Master of Ceremonies.

A Hymn—rendered by Choir.

Prayer—Dr. John O. Wilson.

A well prepared paper was read by Miss M. A. Allen of the Baptist Church. An interesting paper prepared and read by Mrs. R. L. Smith of the Presbyterian Church, and an instructive talk by Rev. R. W. Barber, closing with a talk by Rev. John O. Wilson and R. W. Barber.

All parts of the exercises were along Missionary lines and to take part, by their presence at least, in the celebration of the Silver Jubilee of the Southern Woman's Missionary Society of the Methodist Church.

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